



The Parasitic Emission



Volume 13, Number 7

Summer Edition

July 1985

Meeting Notice

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

The July meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, July 26, 1985 at 7:30 p.m. in the DuBois Area Senior High School. **NOTICE THE CHANGE IN THE DATE!!!!!! FRIDAY, JULY 26!!!**

The reason for the change is because the president, secretary and treasurer will all be attending Civil Air Patrol duties at Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts the weekend of the 19th.

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Program Announcement

by Art Kunst, W3WM

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) A number of our QCARC members are long time members of the Civil Air Patrol. They will show us with slides and tell us with words how they use their communications and electronics skills in novel ways in CAP. They will also highlight their participation in SAREX 85, a search and rescue competition held at Westover AFB, MA (July 20-21, 1985) among teams from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Local CAP members will be competing on behalf of Pennsylvania Wing, CAP.

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Field Day Scores

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Unofficial results of our Field Day participation are in the neighborhood of 1,000 points. We operated class 2A, with a Novice/Technician station in addition to the other rigs. Most contacts were on 40 phone, with 40 CW being second most points. Over 20 participants were present.

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Minutes of the June Meeting

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club was called to order June 21, 1985 by Pres. WA3IHK.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER REPORT- Checking account balance \$206.10, savings account balance \$355.40.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- WA3UFN outlined the status of the matching funds project for the station at the Clearfield County E.O.C. WA3UFN reported that all those who completed the Novice class passed the Novice or Tech. test. There were 5 who completed the Novice class. WA3IHK Reported on those who passed the upgrade class and that another Novice class may be held in the fall. KA3MUJ reported on the plans for the Novice/Tech station for Field Day. He stated that only several operators expressed interest to operate the station. All the equipment for the station has been arranged.

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS- Question was raised about placing full page fliers for hamfests in the newsletter was raised. After discussion on the subject the feeling was that no fliers would be placed in the newsletter, since in one month we could possibly receive too many, which would take the mailing costs over the standard rate, and that we would not want to include some fliers and not others. WA3UFN presented several amendments to the constitution for consideration.

GENERAL- Question was raised about the location of any upcoming exam locations in the area.

Motion to adjourn was made by WB3IQE seconded by KA3MUJ, carried. The membership adjourned for the program, presented by N3CVL, on Packet Radio.

ATTENDANCE- WA3IHK, K3PS, WA3UFN, WA3GNS, KA3NUZ, KA3FHV, KA3DWR, WB3IQE, WA3GMT, K3AHS, N3CVL, KA3MUJ, J. Cretti, J. Bishop

FCC Amateur Radio License Exams
Submitted by PSARC

The Penn State Amateur Club is sponsoring Amateur Radio License exams Saturday, August 31, 1985. The exams will start at 9:30 AM in Room 301 of the Agriculture Administration Building on the Penn State campus at University Park.

Novice tests will be given for those who do not already have an amateur radio license. There is no fee for the Novice tests.

Upgrade tests will be given for those who already have a license. Upgrade candidates will need a check or money order for \$4 made out to "ARRL/VEC". Candidates can preregister before July 31st by submitting the check and a completed FCC form 610. Preregistration is encouraged; a limited number of walk-in spots will be available.

Preregistrations and requests for more information should be sent to:

Dr. Michael Chaplin
111 Old Main
University Park, PA 16802

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Lifetime Broadcast Licenses

by Paul Silinsky, K3PS

On December 21, 1984, the Commission issued a Public Notice announcing a special diploma form general radiotelephone operator license valid for a lifetime term. These free licenses are available upon request to any licensee who holds a valid First Class, Second Class, or General Radiotelephone Operator License. Holders need not wait until their current license expires to apply.

According to the Commission, the response to the lifetime license offer has been insufficient. Eligible licensees are reminded that this one year program will expire on December 31, 1985. Any eligible licensees who do not request their lifetime license by this expiration date will miss the opportunity. Those who renew their licenses after this program expires will receive a card form renewal document instead of the attractive computer printed, diploma size lifetime license document. Unlike the diploma form lifetime license document, these wallet size, card form renewal documents will bear a

restrictive endorsement. That restrictive endorsement will prohibit the card form renewal licenses from being used for broadcast purposes. Diploma form lifetime licenses, however, may be used for broadcasting.

To receive your special lifetime license certificate, you must send your request to the same FCC Field Office that issued your last license, whether it was an initial license or a renewal. Write the words "Lifetime License" above the Field Office's address. If your present license has an endorsement, you must submit a copy of that license with your request. The Commission asks that you enclose an SASE with your certificate request. The envelope should be at least 4 1/8 by 9 1/2 inches with the appropriate first class postage. (This article was excerpted from the ARRL Letter, published by the American Radio Relay League.)

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Observations on Last Month's Program
by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Packet Radio is a term that many of you are not familiar with. I'll admit that I wasn't all that familiar with it either - but all that has been changed! Bob, N3CVL, presented a program about this new mode of communication that was the best ham club program I've ever seen anywhere - and that includes a lot of meetings!

What is packet? A form of teletype that uses a computer based "terminal node controller", and an amateur transceiver. Along with this, a computer terminal or ASCII teletype is required for the operator to read messages. Computer savvy is not required, and with the commercial availability of the requisite equipment, this is an appliance operator's dream!

Bob fielded dozens of questions from those in attendance, and gave interesting demonstrations of his equipment. He brought along two (!) TNCs and terminals, and hooked them up to a 2 meter HT, and a mobile rig. Connections were to the mike and speaker jacks, and that was all it took. The TNC can even turn a transceiver into a packet repeater station, automatically routing messages to the receiving operator through various other stations until it reaches its destination - and can be read later if the operator is not present! If you missed this program, you really missed a good one!!!

Shorts

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Congratulations to new licensees, Jim Cretti, N3ELF; Gertrude Collins, KA3OGC; Byron Collins, KA3OGD; Keith Weaver, KA3OGM; Kay Walborn, KA3OGQ; John Bishop, KA3OHH. Good luck and many fine QSOs!

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K3PS is sporting a new Ford mobile antenna farm, however no antennas have sprouted as yet. He must be taking IHK lessons!

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For Sale: Radio Shack DMP-110 printer. Contact WA3IHK for details.

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K3PS and WA3UFN have both ordered Heath Packet Radio Terminal Node Controllers, and hope to get them on the air soon.

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Contact WA3GQU at the meeting if you plan to operate Tom Mix Days. There is much planning and coordination to be done if this is to be a success.

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George Dessert, W3IJT is currently attempting to work all counties. Your help is needed in the Quad County area! On another note, he has also jumped on the computer bandwagon with a Commodore-64.

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Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK has recently been appointed Emergency Coordinator for Jefferson County. All hams in Jefferson County who are interested in emergency communications are requested to contact him personally.

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Gary Boucher, W3GNR VHF contest team leader, is hospitalized in the Maple Division, DuBois Regional Medical Center. Here's hoping for a speedy and complete recovery!

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and disadvantages, as opposed to the

When the Party's Over...

by Willard Baun, KA3MUJ

Now that the 85 FD is history, I would like to take the time (and space) to thank everyone who helped out in setting up and operating the Novice/Technician station. Even with all of my "planning", I realized just how unorganized I really was. If everyone wouldn't have pitched in when they did, KA3MUJ never would have gotten on the air. I especially want to thank Ed Golla, WA3GMT for the use of his field generator, truck, dragline and patience. TNX to all.

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How to Select the Right Computer System for Your Ham Shack - Part 4
by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Last time, I talked about peripherals and accessories, and gave some pointers on selecting a printer. Printing information out on paper is one means of making a permanent record of it, but to enter it into the computer at a later date, we would have to type it all over again, a very long and painstaking process.

Mass Storage devices provide a means for permanently storing information in a form the computer can read again at a later date. These peripheral devices can greatly extend the capabilities of the computer. For instance, let's imagine we have written a program which will calculate beam headings to any point in the world, given the latitude and longitude of the remote point. Each time we use the program, it asks us for that information. Now wouldn't it be nice if the computer could "remember" a country's latitude and longitude, once we have typed it in? Enter, the mass storage device. Once we type in the information, it is "written" to the mass storage "medium", and can be "read" by the computer at some time in the future.

In fact, our program can be "saved" to the mass storage medium and "loaded" from it later in much the same manner. You can see how much more convenient this is than having to manually enter everything, every time we use the system!

Tape units - Virtually all computer systems come with some kind of cassette tape storage capability. Cassette tape for computer data storage has its advantages

other method, disk storage.

The main advantage of cassette storage systems is their relatively low cost, however their slow speed and poor reliability limit their usefulness for all but home computers. Most computers come with a cable that you can plug into a garden-variety cassette recorder, and presto! Instant mass storage. Some manufacturers have opted to sell a "special data cassette unit" for \$70 or \$80 and have made their computers incompatible with the standard \$19.95 portable cassette recorder. I think that's dirty pool, but if you read the ads in the magazines, there are "trick" cables that will connect one to the other. "Circumventus Omnia."

Cassette tapes are difficult to copy, and making a copy of data with a single tape recorder requires a special program, much switching of cassettes in and out of the recorder and pressing record and play buttons at an alarming rate. I don't know anyone who has done it successfully. And, no, you can't just dub the audio from one to another, because the waveform shape and relative signal levels are extremely critical. If all this sounds like there must be a better way, relax! There is.

Disk storage - Disk storage units store information as magnetic impulses, much the same as cassette tape units, but that is where the similarity ends. They are more costly than cassette units, but what they offer in speed, reliability, and volume of data on a single disk is more than worth the extra cost. Disk drives require special interfaces to the computers called disk controllers, which are usually installed with the first disk drive in the system.

There are two types of disk drives in current use; floppy disks are thin, plastic covered, removable disks which are very popular today; and fixed disks, which have hard-surfaced disk packs, enclosed in hermetically sealed disk drives. These "Winchester" drives have very high capacities - millions of characters - and have the lowest cost-per-byte of any storage medium.

Conclusion - In this installment, I have discussed the various types of mass storage peripherals in current use, listing advantages and disadvantages of each. Next time, I will cover communications using computers.

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Newsletter of the
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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F 1985
WA3UFN

Member:



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